THE COLUMBIAN MIRROR
AND
ALEXANDRIA GAZETTE.

Four Dollars per Ann.] SATURDAY, JANUARY 28, 1797. [Vol. V.—No. 595.

☞ VENDUE.

ON TUESDAY and FRIDAY, in every week, at 10 o'clock in the morning, will be exposed for sale at the Vendue Store (corner of Prince and Water streets)

A VARIETY OF

WET & DRY GOODS.

Of which the particulars will be given previous to the sale.

The VENDUE MASTERS will always keep the Store open for the reception of GOODS, and selling of such articles therein between the times of public sales as may be on limitation. They likewise offer their services in transacting any kind of Commission Business.

MARSTELLER & SONS.

April 5th, 1796.

For Charter,

THE BRIG

Virginia,

Burthen 300 hhds of tobacco.—For term apply to

SHREVE & LAWRASON.

Who have for sale—Queen's ware in crates, well assorted; glass ware; double Gloucester cheese in hampers; Liverpool salt in sacks and loose; pipes in boxes; pearl barley in kegs; bar lead; candles by the box

Oct. 18. tf.

For Sale,

On a liberal credit,

THE SHIP

FELICITY,

320 tons burthen, only 2 years old, and may be sent to sea with very little expence.

The Felicity is now in the river and will be up to town as soon as the ice will permit.—She is allowed to be as faithfully built and as burthensome a vessel as any of her size in the United States.

She is well calculated for the London or Liverpool trade.

Apply to

THOMAS PATTEN, or
JONATHAN SWIFT.

January 26. tf

Wanted Immediately,

AN Overseer on the shares, on Shanandoah river, to work ten fellows with good horses, &c. found. The land is very good, and a very good share will be allowed. Any person that may suit, will no doubt produce satisfactory testimony of his ability honesty, sobriety and industry. For further particulars apply to Messrs. Korn and Wifemiller, Alexandria, or to John Holker on Shenandoah river, Frederick County.

Nov. 25. 3m ep.

Very great Bargains.

THE public are informed that the Goods remaining on hand at the Store under the direction of the subscriber, opposite to M'Knight's tavern, will henceforth be sold at prices reduced below the very moderate terms at which they have heretofore been sold. The proprietor being desirous of closing the sales speedily, will accomodate retailers with a credit.

Wm. HICKMAN.

January 7. tf

Andrew & Wm. Ramsay

Have imported in the brig Dolly, via. New-York from Oporto, ten pipes, ten hhds. and twenty quarter casks of

PORT WINE,

of a very superior quality which they now offer for sale at their warehouse, King-street.

They have also on hand,

Madeira Wine 11 pipes, hhds. and quarter casks. Lisbon do. 11 pipes. Teneriffe do. in hhds. Sherry do. in quarter casks. Port do. in bottles and a quantity of well assorted bar iron.

Dec. 6. tf

Blank Manifests for sale at this Office.

IN COUNCIL,
JANUARY 5, 1797.

ORDERED, That the Resolutions passed by the General Assembly at their last session, respecting certificates and bills of credit be published eight weeks successively in one of the Philadelphia and Alexandria Newspapers, and in one of the Baltimore, Frederick-Town, and Easton papers, and the Maryland Gazette.

By order,
NINIAN PINKNEY,
Clerk of the Council of Maryland.

BY THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES.
DECEMBER 27, 1796.

1st. RESOLVED, That the treasurer of the western shore be, and he is hereby authorised to pay off and discharge the principal and interest due on all certificates heretofore issued by the state of Maryland, other than those distinguished as fraudulent ones, provided the same are brought into the treasury for payment on or before the first day of July, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-seven.

2d. RESOLVED, That all holders of certificates heretofore issued and funded by the State of Maryland, bring the same to the treasury of the western shore for payment of principal and interest, on or before the first day of July next, and that no interest on any certificate heretofore issued, which shall accrue after the first day of July, one thousand seven hundred and ninety seven, shall be paid thereafter, nor the principal sum until after the end of the next session of assembly.

3d. RESOLVED, That such part of the five months pay, due to the officers and soldiers of the Maryland line, and due for services on board the barges, as shall not be demanded of the treasurer of the western shore on or before the first day of July, one thousand seven hundred and ninety seven, be not paid to any person or persons demanding any part of the same until after the end of the next session of assembly.

4th. RESOLVED, That the treasurer of the western shore be and he is hereby authorised to pay off and discharge the amount of principal and interest of such bills of credit of the emission under the act of June session, one thousand seven hundred and eighty, as may be produced and brought into the treasury on or before the first day of July next.

5th. RESOLVED, That if any of the holders of bills of credit emitted in virtue of the act of June session, one thousand seven hundred and eighty, do not bring the same into the treasury of the western shore for payment, on or before the first day of July, one thousand seven hundred and ninety seven, that all interest from that time cease thereon, and the principal not be paid until after the end of the next session of assembly.

6th. RESOLVED, That the above resolutions be published for eight weeks successively in one of the Philadelphia and Alexandria newspapers, and in one of the Baltimore, Frederick-Town, and Easton papers, and the Maryland Gazette, that the creditors of the state may be notified that funds are prepared for the discharge of their claims.

By order,
W. HARWOOD, Clk.

NOTICE.

CAME to the subscriber's farm adjoining the town of Alexandria, a small brindle COW, which gives milk.—She has small thin horns with holes bored in each, a star in her forehead, white tail, and some white under her belly.—The owner is requested to prove property, and take her away, only paying the expence of this advertisement.

B. DADE.

Lockabour, Jan. 19 3w&w

JUST RECEIVED,

From New-York, and for sale by

STEPHEN ALLEY,

A general assortment of

Ladies', Gentlemens', and Childrens' SHOES, &c.

December 8

UNION BREWERY.

Strong & Table Beer

now ready to be delivered to purchasers at the Union Brew-House.

The Columbian Mirror
AND
ALEXANDRIA GAZETTE.

MISCELLANEOUS.

FROM THE GAZETTE OF THE UNITED STATES.

PARTY SPIRIT.

The numerous virulent pieces that pass between men of different parties, cannot but be disgusting to every unbiassed reader; and indeed these effusions of spleen have become so common, that they seem now to be generally passed over without regard, and serve only to fill the corner of a newspaper without any benefit to those who read them.

The liberty of the press, which ought to be prized by every freeman, should at the same time be used with such moderation as to exclude all unnecessary satire. One of the great purposes of a free press is to secure the liberty of a country, in any critical time, by a candid and ingenious display of principles, and to warn its citizens of any dangers that may chance to threaten them from ambitious men; but it is sometimes so much abused by the little politicians of a country, that many who are otherwise well disposed to the public welfare, are led to wish that no such liberty of the press existed. That is not indeed a wish cherished by myself, nor even by a majority of society; but such intemperance will sometimes be attended with this consequence, and if these fierce political champions have really the happiness of their country so much at heart as they pretend, it might afford some inducement for them to suppress their acrimony, to consider how easily mankind are sometimes prevailed upon to give up a privilege for the sake of safety, and how frequently nations are enslaved by ambitious men, who take advantage of their evils to enforce the necessity of more restraint.

I have been led to these remarks, Mr. Printer, by the numerous "*hints*" and "*communications*" that have struck my attention upon taking up a newspaper. If the motive of these writers be to reform errors, and do away prejudice, there is to be sure some excuse for them; but still we are left to lament that such inadequate means should be used, as the method they take has quite a contrary tendency; and the breach between different parties, instead of being closed, is made wider. The natural pride of man induces him to reject advice, even though he knows it to be given with good intentions; but when it is accompanied with insult, it will lead him to embrace the most palpable errors with more eagerness than he did before, and to disseminate them amongst others, in order to vindicate his own understanding in having first admitted them.

But I am inclined to think, sir, that their views are different. They probably mean nothing more than to give to the public some bright specimen of wit, or power of sarcasm; but let me ask any one who thus frivolously wastes his time and paper, whether he himself has ever received any pleasure from the perusal of similar pieces? If their object is to entertain, they should be more pointed; for no person is amused by general censure. Is any criticism against aristocrats or democrats (terms that comprize great numbers) calculated to please a reader who understands not to whom they are particularly applied? I believe not, and if the writers who are so ready to shew their smartness, would apply the enquiry to their own feelings, the event would be sufficient to baffle their hopes of distinction from this source, and spare the public the task of perusing compositions that yield neither pleasure nor information.

In satire that is personal, the case is different; for here we are perhaps acquainted with the characters; and we are gratified in watching the arrows of reproach that fly from side to side, because we know the object on whom they fall, and their fate is interesting.

Thus it appears, Mr. Printer, that no man ought to present his essay to his fellow citizens, unless it be to communicate something valuable, or something pleasing. For this reason I have always been led to despise the production of a writer, that deals in mere abuse without argument, and look upon it as nothing more than a prostitution of the purposes for which the freedom of the press is designed. I may by this means indulge my own malignity against a particular party, but cannot hope to convince other men; and for what other purpose is it that I publish my resentment? The man who wishes to avenge an injury received from his neighbour, must expose the baseness that dictated it, otherwise his hearers cannot join in his enmity. If he wishes to recommend any proposed system or plan, let him trace its operations, or designate its effects; for it is necessary that the public, to whom he offers his opinions, be made sensible of their justness before they adopt them, and without this procedure not even his *name*, however respectable, will succeed in recommending it, much less his anonymous sentiments, delivered without argument and without order.

PACIFICUS.

FROM THE FEDERAL GALAXY.

[*A new paper published at Bratleborough, in Vermont.*]

Messf. Dickman & Smead,

ABOUT ten years ago a Boston gentleman was visiting our part of the country; he took a great liking to my nephew Jotham; and nothing would do, but he would carry him to Boston with him. As he promised to take care of the boy, and see that he was bound in due time, to a good trade, I consented; and, for ought I know, he has acted like a man of his word. A few weeks ago I received a letter from the boy, telling me, that by the goodness of the same gentleman, he was set up in business: For my information, he sent me the following, his first advertisement, which he had cut out of a news-print:

NOW OPENED,

(*At No. 120, Cornhill,* Boston)

THE FOLLOWING CHOICE ARTICLES,

By the ship Tanjore, *and the brigantine* Bangalore:

NUMMUMS.
Bearbons Gurrahs,
Tandah Cossahs,
Guhgays Tockerys,
Kerseymeres,
Morlaix, *superfine,*
Drogedas,
Sacundas,
Pullicats,
Royal Platillas,
and Britannias,

Brown Hollands,
and Warrandorp,
Silicia Cream
and Siamoise,
Glaz'd Pauilles,
Hoogley Rajapoores,
Jagana Tossas,
Permatan. Also,
Masulipatam,
Vilagapatam,
and Bimbipatam,

Excellent double milled Devonshire Impenetrables.

A quantity of elegant dressed Fitch, Lufere, black Gener, and Opposoms.

A few sets of Zoonomia and Della Cruscn,

Mess. Printers, I read over my father's gallery, this curious advertisement, three times; I borrowed a dictionary, and looked for the words, without finding them. I shewed Jotham's advertisement to our minister, our 'squire, our deacon, our lawyer, and my wife;—and all the wise heads in our town cannot tell, to this day, what business Jotham follows—whether he is a soap boiler, a tallow chandler, a leather breechers maker, or a tailor. Our ensign, who is an honourary member of a democratic club, shakes his head, and looks wise, at the BROWN HESSIANS;—He says, as how King George brought more *Hessians*, in the time of the war, than he knew what to do with; and he supposes, *that witched* John Jay had agreed to take some of them off his hands, by his wicked treaty; and that they are now selling in Boston. Jotham says, in his letter, that he shall bring with him, when he visits us, a HUMHUM for my daughter Deborah, for whom he has a kind of sneaking kindness. If the boy is in honest business he shall have Deborah, (if so be she consents;) but, I can tell Jotham not to put his *Boston Humhums* upon my girl; I won't bear it.

Now, Messrs. Printers, understanding you are about setting up a newsprint in our state, I thought no one more proper to ask, what business Jotham is employed in, in Cornhill.—If you cannot tell, please to publish this.

From yours to serve,

JOHN DOWNRIGHT.

P. S. Would it not be well for Boston folks to print a dictionary, so that one may understand their hard words.

To be Rented.

A Two Story Brick House

on the north side of King street, next door to Mr. James Kennedy's, and opposite Mr. David Davey's.—For terms apply to

JESSE TAYLOR.

January 26. tf

For Sale,

A Merchant, Grist, and Saw Mill, in the county of Loudoun, about ten miles from Leesburg, with about 100 acres of land, one half low ground, cleared, and under a good fence. The other half in woods. The Mill house is built of stone, two stories high, 56 feet long, and 40 wide, one pair of large burr stone, and a pair of short hill stones, for country work. She is well calculated for merchant work, situate on Goose creek, on a never failing stream, about 40 miles from Alexandria, and the same distance from the Federal city. There is on the premises a good miller's house, store house, granery, and stable. The store house is well finished, a large stone chimney, with three fire places, with a kitchen and cellar under the house, well adapted to the accommodation of a small family, and if not sold will be rented to any person that may apply. There is also on the premises another house not far from the mill, newly built, with two rooms, a stone chimney with two fire places, which will answer a family that may work the farm. One third part of the money to be paid down, the other two thirds in two yearly payments, to be secured, either by a mortgage on the premises, or personal security. Apply to the subscriber on the premises.

SIMON TRIPLETT.

December 12.

Potomac Company.

FOR SALE at the Union Tavern, in George Town, thirteen shares in the Potomac Company, on the first Monday in March next, unless in the mean time the proprietors of the said shares pay to the treasurer the debt and interest due thereon. And the stockholders of the additional capital are required to pay to Wm. Hartshorne, treasurer of the said company, ten per cent. on the amount of each share by them held on or before the first day of March next ensuing the date hereof.

TOBIAS LEAR, President.
JAMES KEITH, } Directors.
JOHN MASON, }

January 12. 5w

FOR SALE AT THIS OFFICE,

A FEW OF

The President's Address.

The Columbian Mirror
AND
ALEXANDRIA GAZETTE.

POLITICAL.

DOCUMENTS

Which accompanied the Message of the President of the United States to both Houses of Congress, January 19, 1797.

Letter to Mr. Pinckney, Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States to the French Republic.

Department of State, January 16, 1796.

SIR,

In my letters of the 5th and 30 ult. I sent you two notes from Mr. Adet, the minister of the French Republic to the United States; the former dated the 27th of October, and the latter the 15th of November last; and my answer to the first. The latter note embracing numerous topics of complaint and going as far back as the year 1793, required a particular examination of all the transactions of our government from that time to the present. The other indispensable duties of the office prevented me entering on this examination as early as I had expected, and the current business has retarded the pursuit. The result of this examination I am now, by the direction of the President of the United States to communicate to you. This history of our affairs you will find supported by documents, many of which were delivered to you at your departure, and the residue will be herewith transmitted. The remarks and reasonings on facts you will duly appreciate; and, from the whole, joined with your own observations, you will be enabled, it is believed, to vindicate the United States, and to demonstrate their impartiality as a neutral nation, their fidelity in the observation of treaties, and their friendship as an ally.

The discussion on which I am entering will involve much repetition; for the general questions and particular cases grouped together in the Minister's last note, have been subjects of controversy and correspondence from May, 1793, to this day. Some other points have indeed been contended for, which the Minister has now passed without notice. Why they are omitted I know not; for in these cases the United States were as positively charged with violating treaties as in those which he has been pleased now to detail. Some of them it may be found proper to introduce, to render less imperfect the view of our relations to France.

The complaints of the French minister against the United States, have reference to three principal subjects.

1st. To the abandonment of their neutral rights to the injury of France, in not maintaining the pretended principles of the modern law of nations, *That free ships make free goods*, and that timber and naval stores for the equipment and armament of vessels, are not contraband of war.

2d. To violations of our treaties with France, even in their letter.

3d. To the treaty of Amity and Commerce between the United States and Great Britain; which he alledges "deprive France of all the advantages stipulated in a previous treaty." A fourth complaint is truly ingenious. The fortune of war has constrained some of the belligerent powers from enemies, to become her allies; and if the alledged abandonment of the rule of the modern law of nations, in its consequences, works an injury to those allies, from that moment France is also injured. Perhaps it will be in time to notice this last charge when the allies themselves complain; if the answer to the first, involving the same principle, [illegible] this altogether unnecessary.

I shall now present to your view those facts and observations which will prove, we conceive, that the minister's complaints are without any just foundation.

Under the first charge, That we have not maintained, as we ought to have done, our neutral rights, it is alledged:

1st. That the position, *that free ships make free goods*, is an established principle of the modern law of nations, and that Great Britain, by capturing French property on board our vessels, has violated our neutral rights; and that unless we compel Great Britain to respect those rights, France will be justified in violating them.

Not to remark on the singular reasoning, That if one warring power commits an act of injustice towards a neutral nation, another warring power may lawfully commit the like injustice, we may ask what authority is adduced, to shew that the modern law of nations has established the principle, *That free ships make free goods?* Vattel says positively that * "effects belonging to an enemy found on board a neutral ship, are seizable by the rights of war." Agreeably to this long established rule of the law of nations, France herself, in her marine laws, has directed that † *the merchandizes and effects belonging to her enemies which shall be found on board neutral vessels shall be good prize.* By a former law, indeed, the neutral vessels themselves, as well as the effects of her enemies on board, were declared to be good prize. Valin ‡ remarks, however, that this regulation was peculiar to France and Spain; and that elsewhere the *goods* of the enemy were *alone* subjected to confiscation. And in the treaty of France with the city of Hamburgh, in 1769, it was stipulated "that all effects, provisions, and merchandize whatsoever belonging to her enemies, and found on board the vessels of Hamburgh, should be confiscated."

Mr. Adet remarks, that one of his predecessors, in July 1793, applied on this subject to the government of the United States, but was unsuccessful. He must refer to Genet's letter to Mr. Jefferson, dated July 9, 1793, [the subject was resumed in terms still more extraordinary in his letter of July 25th, 1723,] to which Mr. Jefferson answered on the 24th, declaring § "his belief that it cannot be doubted, but that by the general law of nations, the goods of a friend found in the vessel of an enemy are lawful prize. It is true that sundry nations, desirous of avoiding the inconveniences of having their vessels stopped at sea, ransacked, carried into port and detained, under pretence of having enemy goods on board, have, in many instances, introduced *by their special treaties*, another principle between them, that enemy bottoms shall make enemy goods, and friendly bottoms friendly goods; but this is altogether the effect of particular treaty, controling, in *special cases*, the *general principle* of the law of nations, and therefore taking effect between such nations only as have so agreed to controul it." And it is plain, that it was to avoid the inconveniences resulting from this general rule of the law of nations, that France and the United States stipulated, in the 23d article of their commercial treaty, "That free ships should give freedom to goods; and that every thing should be deemed free which should be found on board the ships belonging to the subjects of either of the contracting parties, altho' the whole lading, or any part thereof, should appertain to the enemies of either, contraband goods being always excepted." It is also plain that this stipulation was intended to operate (in- [illegible] its sole object, and otherwise could have no operation at all) when, one of the parties should be at war with a nation, or nations, with whom the other should be at peace. France, therefore, has now no right to complain if the goods of her enemies find protection on board American ships, or to pretend, that in order "To restore the balance of neutrality "to its equilibrium," she may seize on such goods: the just equilibrium between her and the United States will be restored when we are at war and she at peace; at which time the goods of our enemies will find protection on board the vessels of her citizens.

2d. It is alledged that we have abandoned the modern public law on contraband, and by our treaty with Great-Britain *granted* to that power exclusively the free carriage of articles for the equipment and armament of vessels.

Here, as in the former case, the question recurs, what is the law of nations on the point in dispute? Vattel defines contraband goods to be "commodities particularly used in "war—such are arms, military and "*naval* stores, *timber*, horses, and "even provisions in certain junctures "when there are hopes of reducing "the enemy by famine." In the treaty between France and Denmark, concluded on the 23d of August, 1742—¶ "Tar was declared contraband, together with rosin, sails, hemp, cordage, masts and timber for ship building." Thus, on this account (says Valin) there would have been "no cause for complaining of the conduct of the English, if they had not "infringed particular treaties; for of "right these things are now contraband, and have been so since the "beginning of this century, which, "however, was not the case formerly." "The modern public law on "contraband," mentioned by Mr. Adet and his predecessors, probably refers to the principles declared by the armed neutrality, during the American War. This transaction is too remarkable to be passed unnoticed.

During that war, Great-Britain and the other belligerent powers, exercising the rights assured to them by the law of nations, made prize of enemies property on board neutral vessels, and of contraband goods belonging to neutrals. Eager as neutral nations, must be to seize the opportunity which war presents, of being the carriers for the belligerent nations, where ships and mariners are wanted for military operations, it was perfectly natural that the former should desire to establish as a rule, that free ships should made free goods; or in other words, that neutral bottoms should protect the goods on board, to whomsoever these belonged; and it was equally natural for them to desire to diminish the list of contraband. In respect to the latter, it must have been particularly interesting to the three northern maritime powers, from whose dominions chiefly the other maritime nations of Europe received supplies of timber and naval stores, to strike these from the list of contraband, or by some means to except them from capture.

With these dispositions the Empress of Russia, in February, 1780, made public the principles on which she would maintain the commerce of her subjects. It will be necessary here to recite only two of them. 1. That all the effects belonging to the subjects of the nations at war should be free on board neutral vessels; contraband goods excepted. 2. That the articles of contraband should be regulated by the 10th and 11th articles of her commerce with Great-Britain, extending the regulations of those articles to all the belligerent powers.

To enforce the observance of those principles, she gave orders for equipping a considerable part of her marine.

In July of the same year, Denmark acceded to the principles of the armed neutrality, and entered into a conven-

* *Book 3, S. 115.*
† *Valin, P. 150, Reg. Oct. 21, 1744.*
‡ *Valin, vol. 2, P. 253, 253.*
§ *State Papers, P. 50, 53, 55.*
‖ *B. 7, S. 112.*
¶ *Valin, vol. 2, P. 264.*

tion with Ruſſia, for maintaining them, aſſuming for her rule in determining what articles ſhould be deemed contraband, her treaty of commerce with Great Britain, concluded the 11th of July, 1760. In the third article of this treaty, the deſcription of contraband goods is in general terms—"Any proviſions of war, as ſoldiers, "arms, machines, cannon, ſhips, or "other things of neceſſary uſe in "war." But by a convention concluded at London on the 4th of July 1780, between Great-Britain and Denmark—"To explain the treaty "of commerce of 1670 between the two powers," the articles deemed contraband are particularly enumerated, and among them we ſee "Timber for "ſhip-building, tar, roſin, copper in "ſheets, ſails, hemp, and cordage, "and generally whatever ſerves di-"rectly for the equipment of a veſſel, "unwrought iron and fir-planks ex-"cepted." It is remarkable that theſe are the very articles admitted as contraband in the 18th article of our treaty of commerce with Great Britain, and for which admiſſion Mr. Adet declares, "All the commercial rela-"tions between France and the Uni-"ted States are entirely broken."

But it is further to be noticed that this convention between Ruſſia and Denmark, concluded in the midſt of the American war, for maintaining the principles of the armed neutrality, and to which other European powers acceded, is explicitly declared in the 9th article, * to have been concluded and agreed on *for the time that war ſhould laſt* †; though it was to ſerve as a baſis to future engagements, which circumſtances might render neceſſary, on account of new naval wars in Europe. And with the latter view, the king of Sweden manifeſted the utmoſt ſolicitude leſt the war ſhould be cloſed without the intervention of the neutral powers. He was therefore urgent that the Empreſs, with all the parties to the maritime convention ‡ "ſhould propoſe to the belligerent "powers the eſtabliſhing of a Congreſs "in which the different concerns both "of the powers at war, and of the "neutral ſtates, ſhould be examined "and terminated." And theſe concerns, he afterwards mentions to be "the publication, *and the ſettling of a* "*maritime code of laws*;" objects truly important, and meriting all the ſolicitude manifeſted on the occaſion by the King.

But theſe ſteps of the King of Sweden ſerve as additional proofs that the principles of the armed neutrality were not conſidered by the parties to the maritime convention, as ſanctioned by the exiſting law of nations. For permanently to eſtabliſh thoſe aſſumed principles, by introducing them into a maritime code, was obviouſly the influential motive with the King for deſiring a Congreſs, at which ſuch a code might be ſettled with the aſſent of all the nations of Europe. But this project did not ſucceed; no Congreſs was formed: the belligerent powers made peace at different periods, and with that war ended the maritime convention. This no nation has more reaſon to regret than our own, as well becauſe the principles in queſtion reſpect ſome very valuable portions of our exports, as becauſe our diſpoſition and our policy preſerving us in peace, ſuch an extended liberty of commerce would prove highly advantageous to us as carriers for the powers at war.

We have ſeen then, that the law of nations, the marine laws of France, her own treaties as well as thoſe of other nations, and even the ſyſtem of the armed neutrality, inconteſtibly eſtabliſh theſe principles, That enemies goods on board neutral veſſels are rightful ſubjects of capture and condemnation; and that timber and other articles for the equipment and armament of ſhips, are contraband of war: and, therefore, that the admiſſion of theſe principles, in the treaty between the United States [illegible] not being a grant to her of any right (for in what ſenſe could we be ſaid to give what ſhe before poſſeſſed?) furniſhes no juſt ground of offence to France. In what ſenſe can the United States be ſaid to have "*refuſed* to other nations a right," which they and we voluntarily and mutually agreed to *renounce*? Or how are we chargeable with "partiality in favour "of England," becauſe we did not take arms to *compel* her alſo to *renounce* it?

But Mr. Adet ſtill roſting on the idea that not to *compel* Great Britain to *renounce*, is to *grant* her a *right*, ſeems to imagine that we ſhall attempt to obviate his complaints by ſaying "That "France having the right by her trea-"ty of 1778, to enjoy all the advan-"tages in commerce and navigation "which the United States have grant-"ed to England, is not injured by "the ſtipulations of the treaty, of "1794 (with great Britain) relative "to contraband of war; as they be-"come common to her."—But we ſhall ſay no ſuch thing. The ſecond article to which he refers has no relation to this ſubject. Had we *granted* any particular *favor* to Great-Britain, or to any other nation, in reſpect to commerce and navigation, we readily admit, that by this article France would be immediately entitled to the ſame. But in regard to contraband of war, *we have granted nothing*, and therefore, under that article, *France can claim nothing*.

Under the influence of preſent and temporary intereſts, the very *nature* of the ſtipulations between France and the United States on the ſubject of free commerce and the limitation of contraband, ſeems to be forgotten. They took for the baſis of their treaty "the "moſt perfect equality and reciprocity"—would they then conſpire to their own hurt? Would they voluntarily and mutually ſtipulate for *injuries*? Or for *advantages*? Certainly the latter; and both conſidered the agreement reciprocally *advantageous* which ſecured to each, in its turn, the freedom of commerce provided by the rules, that free ſhips ſhould make free goods, and that timber and naval ſtores ſhould be excluded from the liſt of contraband.

Connected with this ſubject is what concerns the article of *proviſions*. Mr. Adet ſays that "After having aſſured "to the Engliſh the carriage of naval "ſtores, the federal government *wiſh-ed* to aſſure them that of meals; in "a word, *it deſired to have commerce* "*only with England*. Thus it ſtipu-"lates by the 18th article, that the "American veſſels laden with grain, "may be ſeized under the *frivolous* "*pretext*, that it is extremely diffi-"cult to define the caſes wherein pro-"viſions, and other articles, which "are generally excepted, could be "claſſed in the liſt of contraband of "war."

There are ſo many extraordinary aſſertions in Mr. Adet's notes, thoſe in the above paragraph excite no ſurpriſe. The Federal Government is conſtituted of citizens who have a common intereſt with their fellow citizens of the United States. That common intereſt has a peculiar relation to commerce, on the freedom and extenſion of which the public revenue and the general proſperity of our country chiefly depend. Will it then be believed that the Government *wiſhed* this commerce to be *reſtrained*, particularly the commerce in *meals*, which compoſe the moſt valuable part of our exports? eſpecially will it be believed that the Government *deſired* that our citizens might have commerce *only* with *England*? Let the general ſenſe of our fellow citizens anſwer theſe charges. Let the great maſs of our commercial brethren anſwer theſe — they whoſe enterprize traverſes every ſea and explores every region of the Globe, to extend their gainful trade; citizens whoſe commercial adventures to France and her Colonies have riſen annually to many millions; adventures by which many have hazarded their credit and their fortunes. Yet among all our citizens a commercial treaty with [illegible] alone declared in appearance that [illegible] has been made.

For the reaſoning of our own Government on this ſubject I beg leave to refer you to my letter of September 12th 1795, written by the President's direction to Mr. Monroe. Therein it was attempted to ſhew the *neceſſity* and our *right* of forming that treaty with Great-Britain, and I hope it will appear to you that the concluſion is there fairly drawn, that even the 18th article, as it reſpects proviſions would operate favourably to France.

Before the treaty with Great-Britain, her cruiſers captured neutral veſſels bound to France with proviſions. She aſſerted that in certain caſes, proviſions were contraband of war; conſequently, that ſhe might lawfully capture and confiſcate ſuch proviſions. We oppoſed the principle and the practice. Britain inſiſted on her right, in this dilemma, it was agreed by the treaty that whenever proviſions becoming contraband by the law of nations ſhould be captured, they ſhould be paid for with a ſeaſonable mercantile profit. This ſtipulation without admitting the principle, by ſecuring the American merchant from loſs in caſe of capture, would certainly tend to promote rather than to diſcourage adventures in proviſions to France.

[*To be continued.*]

* *Hiſt. Armed Neutrality*, P. 77.
Marten's Treaties, Vol. 2, P. 103.
Hiſt. Armed Neutrality, 147, 150.

Alexandria, January 28.

A ſoutherly breeze and a few warm days will ſoon take off our natural embargo—and we have it from a gentleman from the northward, as the opinion of one high in office, that no other need be apprehended.

By a New-York paper it appears, that the ſhip Henry which was aground on Shrewſbury Beach, and ſuppoſed by every body would be totally loſt, veſſel and cargo, has, notwithſtanding, been got off by the unexampled ſkill of Captain James Deas, and brought ſafe into that port on Saturday laſt—Previous to this, her maſts had been cut away, and her rudder gone. Very little of the cargo loſt, not more than 100 out of 1800 barrels of flour.

Hamburgh Papers to the 18th of November have been received in Baltimore. The following appear to be the moſt prominent articles.

That the Imperialiſts were making the moſt vigorous preparations to bombard Huningen, and to demoliſh all the fortifications at that place—That the Auſtrians had approached ſo near to Kehl with their batteries as not only to fire into their town, but alſo into the fortifications of the bridge and on the bridge itſelf; and that the inhabitants of Kehl had received orders to remove with their effects to Straſburg, as that place would be demoliſhed—that the head quarters of the Archduke Charles were at Offenburg—That it was reported a *ceſſation of arms* was about to take place between the Imperialiſts and French on the Rhine, that during the armiſtice a *Treaty of Peace* would be ſet on foot, and that a number of couriers were going backwards between Paris and Vienna.

Extract of a letter from Mr. John M. Irwin, dated Havanna, 28th December, 1796.

"I am happy to find that the Governor will not permit the ſhip Golden Age, nor her cargo, to be condemned here. The captors mean to write to Hiſpaniola for condemnation. The prize-maſter has returned me the few dollars which were taken from me when I was captured."

A Philadelphia paper informs that authentic advice have been received from Captain O'Brian of the United [illegible] a ſmart engagement with proper conſideration by [illegible] government to the Dey of Algiers, informing that his veſſel had been captured by a Tuniſian, and carried into one of the ports of that ſtate—that repreſentation had been made to the Dey of Algiers on the ſubject, who had ſent to demand reſtitution of the money, with the head of the corſair who had committed the hoſtility.

Thomas Muir, formerly an advocate at the Scotch bar, who was tranſported to Botany Bay by a ſentence of the court of ſeſſions of Scotland, for ſeeking a parliamentary reform, has effected his eſcape from the place of his baniſhment to Nootka Sound, from whence he travelled over land through Mexico, and croſſed to the eaſtern ſide of the gulph, and thence to the Havanna, where he was taken up by the government there and put in confinement as a Britiſh ſubject—"The ways of Providence are dark but juſt." Had not a war taken place his eſcape from baniſhment might have been but the prelude to death.

[*Aurora.*]

Ninety-four 24 pound cannon were, a few days ſince proved at Hope Furnace, near Providence, by Captain Pierce, of the Federal army. They all bore the proceſs, and are intended for the frigates now building.

[*Boſt. Pap.*]

In the courſe of laſt week, Albany, Waterford, and Schenectady, have all narrowly eſcaped deſtructive fires, from the attempts of ſome, hitherto undiſcovered, incendiaries.

[*Albany Chron.*]

If a revolution ſhould really have been effected in Ireland, what crouds would come from all quarters to ſee the *brogues* of the Iriſh Ambaſſador.

MARRIED.—At Baltimore, on Wedneſday night laſt, (at Captain George Hunter's) by the Rev. Dr. Alliſon, Mr. W. J. HALL, merchant, of this town, to Miſs GRACIE CRAIG.

MECHANICAL RELIEF SOCIETY.

☞ THE Members of the above Society are hereby notified, that a ſtated quarterly meeting will be held on Wedneſday evening next the 1ſt day of February, at the houſe of Mr. M'Knight.—Attendance is requeſted preciſely at 7 o'clock.

J. V. THOMAS, Sec.

January 26.

Cuthbert Powell & Co.

HAVE juſt opened in the houſe lately occupied by Mr. Norwood, in King-ſtreet,

A complete aſſortment of

DRY GOODS,

Which they now offer for ſale on the moſt moderate terms.

January 28. 3w

A STORE and Dwelling Houſe in King-ſtreet, next door to William M'Knight's tavern. The houſe is in good repair, and very convenient for a ſmall family, with a good kitchen and cellar under the whole. For further particulars enquire of the ſubſcriber, next door to the premiſes.

CHARLES M'KNIGHT.

January 28.

Twenty Dollars Reward.

RAN AWAY from the ſubſcriber on Wedneſday laſt, the 28th December, a negro man named SAM, about 21 years of age, near ſix feet high, a ſtout active fellow, with a bruſh countenance, a ſcaulker and ſhip carpenter by trade. Had on when he went away, a black cloth round jacket and trouſers, the fore finger on one of his hands is much burnt.—It is expected that he has got a forged paſs. The above reward will be paid on ſecuring him in any jail, ſo that I get him again, and reaſonable charges if brought home.

JOHN HUGHES.

January 3.

TWO Lots ſituate on the weſt ſide of Water-ſt. and of reſpectable conveniency will be taken as apprentices, by

POLKENHORN & ANDREWS.

January 28.

TO THE EDITORS OF THE MIRROR.

YOU are requested to publish the following certificates, from a Fredericksburg paper, as one of the publications alluded to appeared in your paper of the 10th inst.

There having been a controversy between Mr. Thomas Magruder and Mr. Richard Buckner, Jun. of this place, which has extorted from Mr. Magruder certain publications, which have appeared in print, relative to Mr. Buckner—this is therefore intended to inform the world, that both these gentlemen have very lately had a meeting, at which, after exchanging a few rounds, both gentlemen being slightly wounded, their differences was amicably settled,

ANDREW GRAY.
BENJ. HAZLEGROVE.

I do not hesitate to declare, that the publications alluded to above, contain aspersions which I am now convinced Mr. Buckner does not deserve.

THOMAS MAGRUDER.

A publication of mine having appeared in print, which was intended as a reply to the one exhibited by Mr. Magruder, and which may have appeared to the world to contain expressions unfavorable to his character; I therefore think it right to declare, that I am now convinced they are not merited by him.

RICHARD BUCKNER, Jun.

Port Royal, Jan. 18, 1797.

Public Notice.

ALL persons indebted to the estate of Capt. Samuel Harrison, late of the town of Alexandria, dec. or to the estate of his late wife Barbara, by bond, note, book debt or otherwise, are requested to make immediate payment.—And those who have any demands against either of the said estates, will please to bring their accounts forward regularly attested, that provision may be made for the speedy payment thereof.

P. MARSTELLER, Adm.

Jan. 24. 1m

To Let.

For a term of three or more years,

That valuable stand for business, situate on King street, adjoining Mr. David Davey. The lot is 43 feet front, and 80 feet deep, on which is erected a two story brick house, 20 feet in front and 30 feet deep, a cellar under the whole—two rooms on each floor with fire places, a kitchen, bake oven, stable, and other conveniences for a family. Also, a warehouse, 18 feet front by 38 feet deep, with a small garden behind the same. For further particulars apply to

PHILIP MARSTELLER.

January 24. tf

For Sale,

TEN Lots opposite Mr. James Keith's wharf, on the west side of Water-street. These lots are from 20 to 26 feet front, and from 63 to 123 feet deep, and have most of them an east front, and are in point of situation equal to any lots at the lower end of the town for private buildings. Any person wishing to purchase may be accommodated low for cash, or on a short credit—or should any person be inclined to buy the whole, they will meet with a great bargain, by applying to the subscriber near Mr. Philip R. Fendall's.

ROBERT G. LANPHIER.

Jan. 24 1m

TO prevent misapprehension, I think it incumbent on me to inform the public, that my advertisement of the 3d inst. was not intended to refer to Mr. Stewart, and that it proceeded from a dispute between Mr. Love and myself.

JAS. LANE TRIPLETT.

January 24. 3t

Flour Store.

THOMAS PETERKIN will Store Flour for any length of time, at six pence per barrel, in the warehouse lately occupied by James M. M'Rea and Co. adjoining Messrs. Shreve and Lawrason.

Where he has for Sale,

Coarse and Fine Salt, West India & N. E. Rum, Loaf & Brown Sugar, Coffee, Pepper, Indigo, and Salt Petre, London Porter in hampers, Queen's Ware in crates, Tanner's Oil, 3d. and 4d. Nails, fine bushel sacks twill'd, 100 barrels Tar.

PHILIP WANTON,

RESPECTFULLY informs that he has removed his Merchandize to the Store lately occupied by Janney & Leith, in Prince Street, near Ricketts and Newton's new buildings, where he is opening an extensive assortment of IRONMONGERY, CUTLERY and BRASS WARE, lately received from Europe, and selected from several importations.

Also,

A few tons of Pot metal well assorted,
A quantity of 56's and smaller weights,
Sole Leather,
Excellent Indigo and Dye Stuffs.
Clover and Timothy seed.
Flour Stored, and other Merchandize, received for sale on commission.

N. B. A valuable lot, corner of Fairfax and Wilkes street, will either be sold whole or divided in smaller lots—the terms will be made easy. If not disposed of at private sale, prior to the 15th of 3d month next (March) shall then be sold at public sale.

P. WANTON.

Alex. 24th 1st mo. tf

Macleod and Yateman,

AT THEIR STORE ON GILPIN'S WHARF, HAVE FOR SALE,

Brown Sugar in bbls
Coffee in bags and barrels,
Jamaica Rum,
Antigua do. } in hhds. & bbls.
New England do.
French Brandy,
Whiskey,
Best Carolina Indigo,
Crude Salt petre,
Cadiz Salt,

Which they will sell low for cash, produce, or good notes at the usual credit.

January 24 tf

Notice is hereby given,

THAT the Partnership of ROBERT YOUNG & CO. hath this day been dissolved by mutual consent, and the books of said concern removed to the office of Philip Richard Fendall, wherein future all concerned will apply. It is earnestly requested that all those who have claims will exhibit them for adjustment on or before the first day of April next, so that the whole amount may be ascertained, and some mode proposed for their ultimate discharge.

All those indebted to the said concern are earnestly requested to discharge the same without delay.

The Store and Warehouse occupied by Robert Young & Co. will be let for 6 years, or their right therein sold for that term.

ROBERT YOUNG,
PHILIP R. FENDALL.

January 10. tf

FOR SALE,

A HOUSE and Lot, on Fairfax-street, in fee simple, lying north, and adjoining to Bryan Hampson's, now occupied by John Duffey.—The lot is 33 feet front, and 100 feet deep. The house is a large a story frame, with a back building of brick, with a cellar under the whole. There is also a frame stable on this lot.

One other Lot of Ground on Wolf-street, 80 feet, running back 106 feet 5 inches to a 16 feet alley on which is erected a back frame building, in which Thomas Irwin now resides. This lot is subject to a ground rent of four pounds per annum. For terms apply to

JOHN JANNEY

Mandeville & Jamieson,

HAVE JUST RECEIVED,

Four boxes, } IRISH LINENS well
One Bale } assorted.
Twenty puncheons 4th proof Rum,
Fresh Raisins in kegs, boxes, & jars,
Do. Figs in frails and jars,
Do. Grapes in jars,
Soft shelled Almonds,
A few boxes Sweetmeats,
Do. Capers.

Also—Coarse and fine Salt, with a very general assortment of Groceries, which they will sell for cash, or at the usual credit.

☞ A good Clerk wanted.

Also, a Black Man to hire as a Porter by the year.

Dec. 8.

For Sale,

A likely Negro Man, about 28 years old, apply to

AUG. J. SMITH.

January 24. tf

UNION TAVERN.

UNION STREET, ALEXANDRIA.

Samuel Hilton,

FROM the Federal City, respectfully informs his friends, and those who were frequenters of the above Tavern, lately occupied by Mr. Godby, of his having this day opened it, for the accommodation of the inhabitants of Alexandria, and travellers in general, where every exertion will be used, and attention paid, to merit a share of their favours.

Gentlemen boarded by the month or year. Rich Soups every day from 10 to 1 o'clock.

Dinners for private parties dressed at the shortest notice.

Good stabling for Horses.

☞ Wanted, an experienced Cook, to whom generous wages will be given.

December 27.

JUST RECEIVED,

AND FOR SALE BY

Wm. Hartshorne & Sons,

FIVE bales of 3 bushel sacks,
6 sets of elegant China,
200 casks of best New-York Stone Lime,
30 barrels of Tar, and a few puncheons of 4th proof Jamaica Rum.

Also on hand,

Best Swedish and country made Bar Iron,
St. Ubes Salt,
James River Coal,
8d and 4d Nails in casks of 25 and 50 thousand each,
A few bushels warranted Clover seed,
Cambooses of a good size,
And a quantity of Rugs,

December 13.

Wanted to Hire,

FIFTEEN or Twenty likely negro fellows, for which a generous price will be given. For terms apply to

NICHOLAS VOSS.

Or in his absence to

JAMES M. M'REA.

Fairfax Street, Dec. 15.

City of Washington,

January 12, 1797.

WANTED for the present year at the public works, in the city of Washington, a number of Laborers, for whom 70 dollars per ann. will be given, or 60 dollars from the 1st of March, to the 20th of December next. They will be found in every thing but their cloathing and attended by a physician at public expence when necessary.

ELISHA O. WILLIAMS.

Bennett and Watts,

Have received by the Brig Liberty, from Philadelphia, the following GOODS, which they offer for sale on moderate terms,

Brass and Brass Headed

And Irons, brass and polished steel Fenders hand bellows, tongs and shovels, Crowley steel in faggots, German do. anvils, and vices, of all sizes, post coffee mills, copper tea-kettles, joiners plains, Scotch braces and bitts, saws of all kinds, best claw hammers and augers, best FF English glazed gun powder a box of very neat gentlemens', ladies', and childrens' hats, made in the English fashion, mens' English shoes, patent fleecy hosiery, a variety of oil cloths best 10-4 Flanders bed bunts, twine of the 1st quality, folio and quarto post paper, foolscap and common do. seal leather, nails, brads, spikes & sprigs, Ticklenburgs, Hessian and British osnaburgs, wool and cotton cards in boxes, tambouring silk and cotton of all colours, tea trays, waiters, &c. &c.

December 10.

For Sale.

NEAR the Great Falls of Potomac, in Loudoun county, 4 or 500 acres of Land sufficiently level for farming. About 100 acres are cleared and but little worn. This tract is well watered, and contains several acres of natural meadow. The timber is oak, hickory, and chelnut, and there is on one part of it a sufficiency of the latter alone to enclose perhaps the whole. Mr. Robert Reed who at present lives on the premises will shew the land to any person wishing to view it, and the terms may be known by a letter directed to the subscriber, and left at the Post Office, Alexandria.

T. FAIRFAX.

January 12. 6w

Great Falls of Potomac.

THE President and Board of Directors having ordered me to considerably increase the number of their hands,—I am ready to engage from 50 to 100 servants on liberal terms for one year.

Any person disposed to send 20 hands, may send with their people an overseer, who will have from 20 to 30 dollars per month, and have the sole direction and charge of the people he brings.

The people will be allowed good rations, a blanket, and medical assistance, should any ailment take place, a doctor being engaged for the use of the workers. I will also give good allowance to a woman who will cook for each squad. Application to be made to me personally or by letter directed thus,

CHRISTOPHER MYERS.
Engineer to the Potomac Comp.
MATILDA,
Via Alexandria.

December 20. tf

JAMES KENNEDY,

KING-STREET,

RETURNS his sincere thanks to those who have been pleased to favour him since his commencement in business, and respectfully acquaints them, that for the accommodation of such of his friends as may live in that quarter he has opened store at the corner of Prince and Water streets adjoining the Vendue, where he purposes to keep a general assortment of Goods in the Wet Good line of the best quality, and at the most reasonable rates. He has at present a variety of best and freshest teas—in particular fine Padra Souchong much esteemed in Europe—Sugars, Coffee, Chocolate, Spirits, Wine, Fruits, refined Saltpetre, and mould candles of a superior quality. In a few days he expects to have a general assortment of Glass and Queen's Ware, with which he will be constantly supplied.

The business will be carried on in King street as usual; where he has for sale a number of French and English Books of the first reputation in various branches of literature.

January 5. 1m

To be Let,

And entered upon immediately.

THE House and lot on Cameron Street, next to Mr. Godby's (late Mr. Wise's) Tavern, lately occupied by Mr. Nathaniel Washington. For particulars enquire of Dr. James Craik, or to the subscriber in the City of Washington.

TOBIAS LEAR.

January 3. 1m

Valuable Lands,

AND OTHER PROPERTY IN LOUDOUN COUNTY FOR SALE, ON CREDIT.

Will be sold to the highest bidder at the plantation near Centerville, (commonly called Newgate,) in Loudoun county, whereon James Hardage Lane formerly lived, on Wednesday the 22nd March next, if fair, if not, the next fair day,

All the real and personal

Estate of the said James Hardage Lane, deceased, (except the Kentucky land,) consisting of two tracts of Land, six valuable Slaves, Stock of every kind, Household Furniture, and Plantation utensils. One of the tracts of land joins the town of Centerville, and contains between 3 and 400 acres with tolerable improvements, on which there is thirty two bushels of wheat sowed. The other tract contains about the same quantity of land, at between two and three miles distance, and is remarkably well timbered, however a particular description is considered unnecessary, as those who may incline to become purchasers will no doubt inform themselves, which they may do by applying to Mr. Wm. Lane, one of the devisees, who lives near the land, and will shew it when required.

A credit of nine months will be allowed on all sums amounting to fifty dollars or upwards, on the purchasers giving bond with approved security, to bear interest from the date, if not punctually paid;—for all sums under the above ready money will be required.

N. B. The sale will continue from day to day, till all is sold.

All persons indebted to the estate are requested to make payment, and all who have demands thereon are desired to bring them forward, properly authenticated, at or before the day of sale, that they may be discharged. GEORGE LANE, Executor of James Hardage Lane, dec.

January 19. 1m

ALEXANDRIA——PRINTED, EVERY TUESDAY, THURSDAY, AND SATURDAY, BY ELLIS PRICE AND HENRY GIRD, Jun.